

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1546

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2079

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GW, GE

SUBJECT: THREE EMBASSIES TO BE BRIEFED ON INNER-
GERMAN TALKS

REF: BERLIN 6524

1. SENATOR STOBBE TOLD NEW UK AMBASSADOR WRIGHT AND ALLIED MINISTERS ON OCTOBER 14 THAT CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE PLANNED TO BRIEF THREE EMBASSIES IN BONN ON STATUS OF INNER-GERMAN TALKS BEING CONDUCTED BY GAUS. HE HOPED THAT SHULER AND SANNE FROM THE CHANCELLERY WOULD BRIEF PERSONALLY. STOBBE SAID HE SPENT TWO AND ONE HALF HOURS WITH THE CHANCELLOR, SHULER, SANNE AND GAUS ON OCTOBER 13, AND THAT CHANCELLOR HAD BEEN APPRISED OF NEED TO KEEP THREE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS INFORMED. STOBBE UNCHARACTERISTICALLY DID NOT VOLUNTEER ANY DETAILS HIMSELF, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE STATE SECRETARY AND FRG REP SPANGENBERG WAS PRESENT. (THERE IS SOME RIVALRY BETWEEN STOBBE AND SPANGENBERG.)

2. STOBBE GAVE AMBASSADOR BACKGROUND BRIEFING ON TELTOW CANAL PROBLEM, WHICH MUST HAVE BEEN UNCOMFORTABLE TO FRENCH MINISTER. HE EXPLAINED IMPORTANCE OF
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SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCING TRANSIT TIME BY 24 HOURS,

WHICH TELTOW IMPROVEMENT OFFERED. AND HE SAID THE
TIMING WAS BECOMING CRITICAL SINCE IT WAS DIPLOMATICALLY
DESIRABLE TO TACKLE THIS PROJECT AT SAME TIME OTHER
MATTERS WERE BEING NEGOTIATED. TELTOW CANAL SHOULD
BE "FOLDED IN" TO LARGER PACKAGE, BOTH TO ENHANCE
COLLECTIVE FRG LEVERAGE AND FOR POSSIBLE OPTICAL
REASONS.

3. HE SEEMED HOPEFUL THAT UPCOMING BRIEFING WOULD
UNSTICK PRESENT HOLD ON TELTOW TALKS. DAVIS

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